

These extra plates are colored and were lithographed by Robert Ridgway, one of the joint authors, and represent the following species<sup>1</sup>: *Turdus mustelinus*, *Turdus migratorius*, *Galeoscoptes carolinensis*, *Sialia sialis*, *Thryothorus ludovicianus miamensis*, *Helminthophaga leucobrouchialis*, *Dendroica aestiva*, *Dendroica caerulea*, *Dendroica blackburnia*, *Dendroica virens*, *Helminthophaga lawrencii*, *Pyrrhuloxia rubra*, *Carpodacus rhodocolpus*, *Chrysomitris tristis*, *Leucosticte atrata*, *Ammodromus nigrescens*, *Zonotrichia albicollis*, *Junco hyemalis*, *Melospiza melodia*, *Euspiza americana*, *Hedymeles ludovicianus*, *Cyanospiza cyanea*, *Cardinalis virginianus*, *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*, *Icterus baltimore*, *Cyanura cristata*, *Antrostomus vociferus*, *Trochilus colubris*, *Sphyrapicus thyroideus*, *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*, *Conurus carolinensis*, *Scops asio floridanus*, *Glaucidium ferrugineum*, *Speotyto floridanus*, *Falco richardsoni*, *Scardafella inca*.

While the existence of an edition of this work with these plates may be known to many ornithologists, yet there is no printed record of such, as far as the present writer is aware. No mention of these plates is made in Coues's 'Bibliography,' nor in the several reviews of the 'Land Birds' to which I have had access. Dr. C. W. Richmond informs me that Mr. Ridgway has never seen a copy of the work with these plates although he has some loose plates in his possession.

This work was published by Little, Brown, and Company, and from their catalogue there seems to have been two editions—one with 64 plain plates, the other with 64 colored plates, "and 36 additional plates of full-length figures beautifully colored by hand." There is still another colored edition without the 36 additional plates. It is quite likely that the original issue consisted of two editions, colored and plain, without extra plates, the latter edition appearing some time later.

WILLIAM J. FOX.

*The Academy of Natural Science of Philadelphia.*

#### In Re *Meleagris sylvestris* Vieillot.

EDITORS OF 'THE AUK':

*Dear Sirs*:—My attention has been called to a rather ill-natured attack on Mr. Ogilvie-Grant, by Mr. J. A. Allen, which appears in your Journal for July, 1902, p. 311. Will you allow me to inform the "unenlightened American ornithologists" that Mr. Grant's citation of *Meleagris sylvestris*, Vieill. is perfectly correct as Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat. IX, p. 447 (1817). That it is spelled with an *i* instead of a *y* does not appear to me to be of the slightest consequence. The reason that Mr. Allen and his friends cannot find *silvestris*, but do find *fera*, is due, I suspect, to the fact that they are not using the original edition of the IX Vol. (1817) of the Nouv. Dict. (ed. 2), but the Vol. IX which contains the reprinted leaf pp. 447,

---

<sup>1</sup>The names are as they occur on the plates and are in sequence, as the plates are not numbered.

448, which is signed "IX \*." and which duplicated lines which appeared on the previous page.

I am, Sirs, yours truly

C. DAVIES SHERBORN,

"*Index Animalium.*"

Sept. 6, '02.

[It gives me pleasure to offer my best thanks to Mr. Sherborn for the information he has given the "unenlightened American Ornithologists" respecting the reprinted leaf comprising pp. 447, 448 of Vol. IX, *Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat.*, nouvelle édition, 1817, signed "IX \*." As Mr. Sherborn suspects, this is the edition of this volume, and the only one, I have consulted in this connection, and it is also the one used by Mr. Elliot. Apologies are therefore due, and are here cheerfully rendered, to Mr. Grant in respect to the citation in question.

It remains to note that if the name *fera* replaces the name *sylvestris* in the reprinted leaf, *Meleagris sylvestris* of course antedates *Meleagris fera*, so that the Wild Turkey of the Eastern United States will have to stand, from the American point of view, as *Meleagris gallopavo sylvestris* (Vieill.).—J. A. ALLEN].

#### Unsatisfactory Records.

EDITORS OF 'THE AUK':—

*Dear Sirs:*—It is with reluctance that we offer any criticism of labor which results in so much pleasure and profit as the editing of 'The Auk.' For some time, however, it has seemed to us that a stricter censorship of items for the 'General Notes' would result in a much more satisfactory standard in that department. Many interesting birds have lately been recorded, as seen, not shot, by observers whose capacity for accurate observation is absolutely unknown to ornithologists in general. Some of these records seem to bear on their face evidence of error. There appeared, for instance, in 'The Auk' for July, 1902, p. 297, a list of arrivals in the Northern Adirondacks. The author lists the White-eyed Vireo, and records its arrival from April 25 to April 30. There is no mention of the Solitary Vireo in the list. This seems enough to arouse suspicion. When one notes further that the date of the arrival of the Wilson's Thrush is given as from April 20 to April 25, nine days earlier than the date given in Chapman's 'Handbook' for Sing-Sing, N. Y., and that the Hermit Thrush does not appear in the list, it seems surprising that the list should have been printed without the least editorial comment.

We would respectfully suggest that no record of a bird merely observed, where there is any chance for error, be accepted, unless the observer be well known to the editor, or to some ornithologist of standing and judgment, who will vouch to the editor for the accuracy of the observer.

Yours respectfully,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

RALPH HOFFMANN.

Cambridge, Mass.